A true

NARRATIVE

Of the Proceedings at the

Sessions-house

IN THE

OLD-BAYLY,

Begun the 28. of *August*, and ended the 31. 1678.

Containing

The Tryals of several for MURDER:

And also,

Of the High-way-men that Robbed the Lace-man: One for a Rape. And all other Malefactors for any considerable Crimes, that were there Arraigned.

The Tryal of the Female *Muggleton*, which was at the last Sessions.

With the number of those that are Condemn'd, Burn'd in the Hand, Transported, and to be Whipt.

With Allowance. R. L'Estrange.

LONDON, Printed for *D. M.* 1678.

A 15

A True Narrative of the Proceedings at the Sessions-House in the Old-Baily: begun the 28. and continued till the 31. of August 1678.

THE most remarkable Tryal that hapned the first Morning, was of two persons of a different Sex, who were Indicted for Murdering a yonng Man in the *Pall-mell* about *Whitsuntide* last: The Tryal was very tedious there being much Evidence produced on both sides; but it being made appear there was no premeditated Malice on the Prisoners side; also that the Deceased, did (being in Drink) first assault the Man-Prisoner, who forwarn'd him from doing so; Likewise that the Woman did, (besides one little blow she hit him on the Calf of the Leg,) all possibly she could to part them; and the Deceased disowning after, he had taken the Sacrament in order to his Dissolution, that he had received any Hurt by them; They were both acquitted.

The next were two young Foot-Pads, Indicted for Robbing a *Lace-man* of 113. Yards of Bone-Lace; the manner thus. The Lace-Man in his way from *Wickham* to *London*, was set upon by the Prisoners at the Bar, one laying hold of one of his Legs, and the other of his Horses Bridle: and when they had unhorst him, and pluck'd off the Bridle and Saddle for fear of Pursuit, they forc'd from him the said Lace, and so departed; they on their way, and he for *London*; where he had not been long, but a Woman out of

Pater

Pater-noster-Row, comes to his Lodging or Ware-house, pretending to buy some of the same sort, (but intending rather to sell that she had,) she demanded the Price of it, which being resolved her; she answered him, she could Sell himself as good, at a much lower Rate; he replyed then, he was sure she must Steal it, which she denyed with an Oath: But in short, when she had shown him her good Penniworth, he knew the Lace to be his own; and so sending for a Constable to Seize her, she promised she would bring him to the Persons she had it of, if he would quit her; and being as good as his word, they were likewise Seiz'd in their Lodging, and at this Sessions found guilty of Felony; the Robery being Immaterial, since their Tryal was out of that County where the Fact was done.

A Servant Girl about 15 years of Age, was Arraigned next, for conveying several sorts of Goods out of her Mistresses House; but that Morning she was to go from her, the Mistress made bold to search her Trunck, where she found an Apron and two Sleeves, mark'd with her own Name; she concluded whatever else she had lately lost, went the same way: She brought her to her Tryal, where because nothing else could be positively laid to her charge, and the Maid young enough to be taught more Honesty; she was brought in Guilty, but the Goods valued at 10 *d.* in order to have as many Flawgs.

A Gentleman who had formerly belong'd to the Guard, was Indicted for lately Murdering his Companion at a Tavern in *Kings-street*, the matter of Fact thus. The Deceased meeting the Prisoner accidentally, desired him to take share of a Pint of Wine, which the Prisoner would willingly have avoided; but in vain he endeavoured it, since the Deceased would not part till they had Drunk together; which rather than give him any cause of Offence, the Pri-

ſoner conſented to go with him: Whereupon they went in, and when the one Pint was Drunk off, the party now Dead called for another, and after that another; inſomuch that the Priſoner, who was then in haſt, told him, he would Drink no more, nor ſtay any longer in his Company: Whereupon the other perſon Drew, and went to Aſſault the Priſoner, who put by his Paſs, and getting up to him, had forc'd him to ſit down in a Chair, and was holding by his Cravat with one hand, and his Sword in the other, when the Drawer came up; and taking particular notice of the Deceaſed, found his own Sword ſticking about five Inches deep in the Deceaſed's ſide: but he being a Quarelſome perſon, and there being no ſign of Malice prov'd betwixt them, the Sword alſo in ſuch a Poſture, as if it fell ſo by Chance and not by Accident, he was brought in not Guilty.

Another was Indicted for Murder, who by his Immoderate Correcting of his Maid-Servant, was thought to be the Cauſe of her Death; but the Doctor and Chyrurgion giving their Opinion that ſhe Dyed of an Impoſthumation; though the Maſter had uſed her ſeverely, he was brought in not Guilty.

A Carpenter was afterwards Indicted for Murdering his Laborer, the manner thus. The Carpenter having undertaken a Piece of Work, wherein he had occaſion to imploy Brick-layers and Maſons, one of them wanted a Tray full of Morter; and the Carpenter finding the reſt of his men buſie, whilſt this Laborer ſate Idling at an Ale-houſe door, called him to Accommodate the Maſon with the ſaid Morter; but the Laborer inſtead of obeying him, gave him approbrious Language; and at laſt threw a great Stone at him, and was going to ſecond it with another; when the Carpenter taking up that which the Laborer

borer first threw, and throwing it at him again, was so unfortunate as to hit the Laborer on the side of the Head, and break his Scull, whereof he presently dyed; but there being no Malice found between them, (for the Laborer came to him but that day,) he was only found guilty of Man-slaughter.

The next was a person Indicted for Ravishing a Maid about a Month since in *Goswel-street*; the Girl seem'd to be a silly Country animal, she came up to *London* in expectation of a place; but being disappointed, was sitting at a door in the same Street, expecting the Waggoner to come by, that with him she might return to her own Countrey: But in the interim it hapned that the Prisoner coming accidentally to the house where she sat, told her he wanted a Maid, and if she was willing, would entertain her in his Service. Whereupon she went along with him, who as he was shewing her his Rooms above Stairs, and telling her what business she must undergo, if she lived with him: His Wife unluckily surpriz'd them; and it is thought, suspecting some foul play, Beat the Countrey Girl out of doors, who it seems wanted not Instigators enow to advise her to revenge the disappointment: For when she came first out of this persons house, and was examined by the Constable, she protested she had received no uncivil usage from the Prisoner; but afterwards pretended a Rape: But the Fallacie being unvizarded, the Prisoner was brought in not Guilty.

Two Gentlemen were Indicted for Murdering another Gentleman in *Red-Lyon-Fields*, on *Sunday* the 18*th*. of *July* last. The sum of the Evidence for the King was, they both were seen in the Quarrel, one of them to give the Deceased that Fatal Thrust in the Breast which kil'd him, whilst the other had his Sword drawn in the Defence of him

him that did it. The Prisoner pleaded that the Deceased gave the Affront; that he that kil'd him, retreated many steps before he made a Pass at him. But the Evidence declaring as above, they were both found guilty of Manslaughter.

There was another man Indicted for having Carnal knowledge with a Young Girl about Nine years of Age; but none of the Evidence being able to prove the Fact; also the Chyrurgion proving the Childs Body had non received so much wrong as could make it a Rape, he was brought in not Guilty.

A Young man was Indicted for Murdering a Woman in St. *Margaret Moses* Parish *Friday street*, it appeared the Prisoner had been Bail for her, who had indeavoured to leave him in the Lurch; but he accidentally hearing of her Lodging, went with a Serjeant to apprehend her, but she to avoid them, ran up to the Leads, and the Prisoner after her, which put her into such a Fright, that she jumpt off the said Leads three Stories high into a Pav'd Yard, and dy'd with the Fall; But the Prisoner being not found to touch her, he was not found Guilty.

Two Youths, the one about 18. the other about 13 years old, were Indicted for Robbing a Hosier in St. *Sepulchers* Parish of 15 *l.* the manner thus. These light Finger'd blades having for some time had a design on this person, watcht their opportunity; on the 16*th.* of *July* last, when he was upon some urgent occasion call'd out of his Shop, designing immediatly to return; the Lesser of them ran to his Till or Cashbox (which likewise happened to be unlockt) and took out of it Fifteen Pounds in ready Money, part of which he presently disburst in Apparel, and the Remainder kept to betray him; for as he was in an Ale-house boasting of his Fortunate Adventures, it was his Misfortune to be

over-

over heard by a Souldier, who caused him to be Seiz'd by a Constable, and carried before a Justice who Committed him: The same Souldier had the Fortune to know the Party whom the had wrong'd, so that he and others who were then in his Company gave so satisfactory Evidence for the King, that the Jury could not but bring him in guilty of his Indictment.

Two other Youths, were also these Indicted for Felony, having in *July* last Stolen two Hogs, valued at 40 *s.* the Evidence against them was Evident, the Owner with some others having found them in the Prisoners Possession, who had nothing to say in their Defence, but that they found them straging in *Pickadillie*; but it being proved likewise by substantial Witnesses, that the Prisoners took them out of the Hog mans Yard, the Malefactors were without more ado pronounc'd Guilty.

The person who as before I told you, was Indicted for making a Rape on the body of a small Child of about 9 years of Age; being not found Guilty of that Indictment, was notwithstanding Arraigned again for a *Trespass*: And though his Misdemeanor could not reach the first Charge; yet it being found that he had much damnifi'd the body of the said Child, he was therefore brought in Guilty of the Latter.

The Maid who in *July* last was Arraigned for Preaching Blasphemy, was then on her seeming Repentance, and Renouncing those Blaspemous Tenents *that she was God*, &c. which before she foolishly affirmed; was on her bringing in Bale for her good Behaviour for the Future, restor'd to her Liberty: And as if she had at the same time been Licensed to Blaspheme, fell to it a fresh, but not without some Alteration; for now being again Arraigned for the same Crime, she had the Impudence before the whole Court

Court to say she was indeed the Third person in the Trinity, and that her Father was that Christ, who was with God at the Creation; for which Impious Expression, she is likely to be Whipped into better Manners of Religion.

There was a young man Indicted for stealing part of the Queens Plate out of her Dairy-house in *S. James's Park*; he He confest the Fact before the Iustice; but in vain denied it here, for he had set his hand to it, and was deservedly found Guilty.

In all were Condemned four men and six women, whereof one of the latter by a Jury of Women was found quick with Child. Sixteen men and one woman Burnt in the hand. Two women to be Whipt, and one to be Transported.

FINIS.

303480